

***I Know How to Find Out More About Jobs and Careers.***

**AREA:** Career Planning and Exploration  
**CATEGORY:** Exploring Careers  
**TIME:** 50 minutes  
**GROUP SIZE:** Class  
**MATERIALS:** "Introduction to Career Paths" counselor sheet, "Career Paths - Working Together in Our Community" student handout, and "VIP Directory" activity sheet  
**GRADE LEVEL:** 4-6

***Career Paths in My Community******Introduction:***

This lesson introduces students to the concepts of career paths. In this activity, students identify employees in their community by determining the career path of each employee.

***Procedure:***

1. Prior to this activity, read the "Introduction to Career Paths" counselor sheet and become familiar with the concept of career paths.
2. Distribute the "Career Paths - Working in Our Community" student handout.
3. Review each of the six career paths with students. Ask students to list examples of careers under each path. Check for their understanding of the career paths.
4. Distribute the "VIP Directory" activity sheet to students. Based on the descriptions in the "Career Paths—Working Together in Our Community" student handout, instruct students to list the name of one community worker under each career path, along with his or her job title. If students have difficulty thinking of workers in a particular career path, encourage them to think of all the services, both public and private, in your community.
5. Discuss how employees at your school fit into some of the six career paths. For example, teachers, guidance counselors, and cafeteria workers all belong under the Human Services career path. A school nurse belongs under the Health Services career path. A school maintenance worker belongs under the Industrial & Engineering Technology career path.
6. Ask students to consider a career that interests them. Ask for volunteer students to share the career path to which they think the career belongs.

***Notes:******Evaluation Suggestions:***

Refer to Section VI of the manual.

## ***Introduction to Career Paths***

What do you want to be when you grow up?

It's a question adults ask children from the time they can talk and it's one that children learn to answer long before they could possibly be aware of the many options available to them. In fact, it's a complex question that deserves careful consideration, given that:

- adults today may change their occupations seven or eight times over the course of their working lives
- many jobs that will need to be filled in the future don't even exist yet
- technological changes and the continuing growth of the knowledge base mean that continuing education becomes more important than ever

So, what do you want to be when you grow up? Working with career paths helps students explore the answer to this question while allowing them the flexibility to function successfully in tomorrow's world of work. The six career paths, incorporated into all of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance materials, allow students to explore fields of occupations, rather than specific occupational titles.

A *Looking at Our Community Through Career Paths* booklet is included in this kit as a resource for several of the activities. Pages from the booklet may be photocopied or additional copies may be ordered, based on the students' needs. Additional copies may be ordered by calling the Instructional Materials Laboratory at 1-800-669-2465.

# VIP Directory

Very Important People that I know in each Career Path (and the job they do!).

## Arts & Communications

Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Job: \_\_\_\_\_

## Business, Management, & Technology

Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Job: \_\_\_\_\_

## Health Services

Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Job: \_\_\_\_\_

## Human Services

Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Job: \_\_\_\_\_

## Industrial & Engineering Technology

Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Job: \_\_\_\_\_

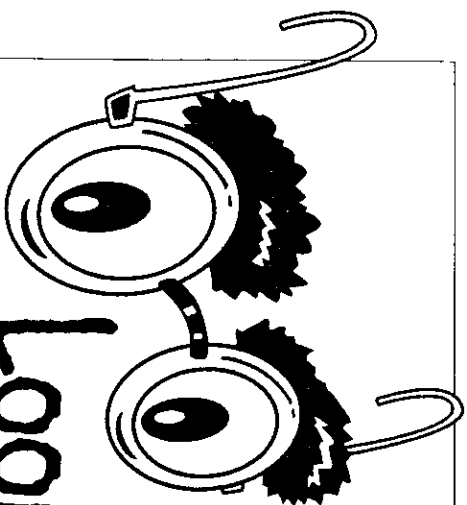
## Natural Resources/Agriculture

Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Job: \_\_\_\_\_

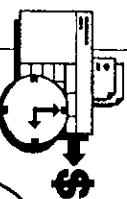
# Becoming Aware of Careers

30-1012-5

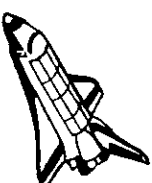


Looking at  
Our Community  
through

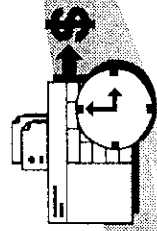
# Career Paths



Everyone working together  
contributes to our community in these  
career paths!

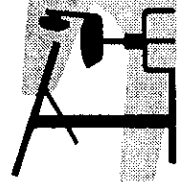


# Career Paths – Working together in our community!



## Business, Management, & Technology (Business Path)

People who like to work with numbers  
and be organized



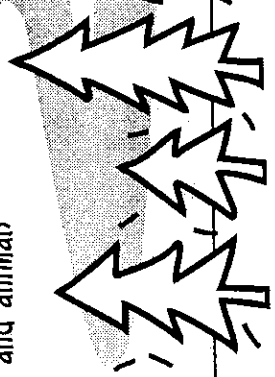
## Arts & Communications (Creative Path)

People who like to draw, write,  
or perform



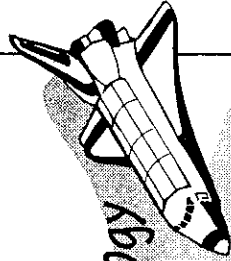
## Natural Resources/Agriculture (Nature Path)

People who like to work outdoors with  
plants and animals



## Health Services (Health Path)

People who like to care  
for animals and people



## Industrial & Engineering Technology (Fixing and Building Path)

People who like to figure out how things  
work and build things



## Human Services (Helping Path)

People who like to work with  
people to help make things  
better for others

